

# RICARDIAN CHRONICLE



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## Board News

### From the Chair, Susan Troxell

Greetings from your Chair and Board of Directors! I'm sure many of you watched the coronation of Charles III and were awestruck by its glittering pageantry. Much of that ceremony derives from medieval roots going back almost a millennium ago when William the Conqueror was crowned King of England at Westminster Abbey on Christmas Day in 1066. And, being a double coronation of a king and queen-consort, it recalled Richard III's own double coronation with his wife Anne.

The part that moved me the most was when King Charles said at the beginning of the ceremony: I come not to be served but to serve. I thought about how those words might have been spoken by Richard III as his life was one of service to his brother, and later to the realm itself when he acceded the throne in 1483. For Richard, service was not an empty gesture but one which he threw himself into with great energy and commitment.

As a society dedicated to Richard III, I believe it is essential that the American Branch reflect that spirit of service. One of the ways to accomplish that is for our members to feel like the Board and myself have dedicated themselves to serving them. This is your society and we seek to serve you. We have tried to accomplish this in the past six months in a variety of ways, the first being our new series of quarterly Zoom lectures. Our first two lectures were given by Dr Tobias Capwell, a world-renowned expert in medieval armor, and by Board member Sally Keil who presented the fascinating and compelling story of the Looking for Richard Project. The latter tied in perfectly with the March 24th release of "The Lost King" movie in American cinemas, which has won universal acclaim from Ricardians around the globe. If you missed seeing it, you can now stream it on Amazon Prime Video.

Another way the Board has tried to serve membership was through the TixPix campaign held in conjunction with "The Lost King". The response to the campaign was overwhelming with over 75 people—members and non-members—participating in it. We were able to raffle off three one-year memberships to the Branch to two non-members and one member. The success of this promotional effort really paid off. Our membership grew by almost 10%, and we now stand at 390 strong and growing! The Board will be looking for ways to engage new and existing members, and maintain the enthusiasm.

Looking forward, we hope you will join us for Dr Compton Reeves' June 25th Zoom lecture about "Labor and Leisure in Medieval Old Age" and Dr Joel Rosenthal's September 24th Zoom lecture about "Bishops at the Yorkist Court". Both Zoom lectures will start at noon eastern time. I'm sure these will be both entertaining and highly educational, so mark your calendars now!

And, if you feel moved to follow Richard III's spirit of service, we warmly welcome all volunteers. Currently, we need a Chapters Coordinator (someone who liaises with our chapters and the board), and anyone who might like to write articles for our Chronicle or Register. The current editor expects to leave this position within a year and will be available during that time for consultation. See "From the Editor" report following this report. We are also looking for volunteers to serve as discussion moderators for a "Ricardian Book Club" which is currently under consideration by the Board. Feel free to reach out to me ([chairperson@r3.org](mailto:chairperson@r3.org)) or our membership chair ([membership@r3.org](mailto:membership@r3.org)) or our editor ([info@r3.org](mailto:info@r3.org)) if you are interested in these, or other, volunteer positions.

### From the Editor, Joan Szechtman

As I have been the American Branch editor since 2011 and rapidly approaching my "use-by-date" (I'm 79), I am looking for a volunteer to assume the editing responsibilities for the American Branch. I will detail the nuts and bolts of this position and work with the volunteer (or two) for up to a year. This way it will not be a data dump and give the new editor(s) time to absorb the processes.

Anyone who volunteers needs to be familiar with desktop publishing software, word processing software, and photo editing software. While Adobe InDesign and Photoshop are gold standards for publishing and editing, they are pricey. As a 501c3 non-profit, we do have access to discounted software through our membership with TechSoup, and there are other good alternatives to desktop publishing, photo editing, and word processing. Also, the volunteer will need access to the internet and either a Mac or Windows (sorry, desktop publishing software that has the capabilities the position requires are not supported on Linux based PCs).

Although no one will stop the editor from writing articles, this is not part of the position's responsibility. The editor collaborates with two assistant editors who help source and review potential articles.

Alternately, if you are comfortable with all but the desktop publishing software and are interested in this position, contact me because we are looking into finding someone outside of the American Branch who can format the prepared content into a print ready file.

If you have used the software outlined above and have time to volunteer, please contact me at [info@r3.org](mailto:info@r3.org) and mention if this excludes desktop publishing software.

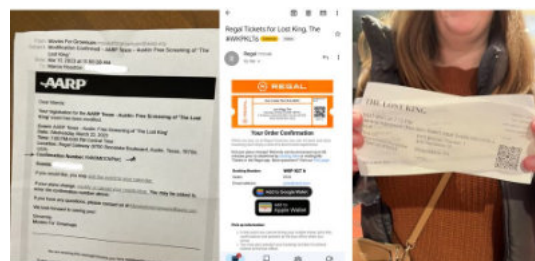
## Membership Chair & Public Relations Officer: TixPix Campaign, Wayne Ingalls

From late March to early April 2023, IFC Films scheduled *The Lost King* movie to be shown in numerous theaters, both large and small, across the United States. Our Board decided to take advantage of the publicity surrounding the movie with the goal of attracting new members and keeping our current members energized. Our TixPix ("ticket picture") campaign was primarily conducted via our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/r3dotorg> We also notified our members of the campaign by an email blast as we recognize not all our members are on Facebook.

Our pre-Campaign began with a Facebook post on March 1st announcing *The Lost King* would be showing in theaters much more widely than we expected, and the post included a link to the website Fandango.com allowing individuals to search in their own areas for dates and times of showings. We "boosted" that post for \$19 over 7 days. "Boosting" is the Facebook term for an ad campaign, with our Facebook post being the ad shown. This pre-Campaign seemed to generate interest, reaching over 1800 individuals (some more than once), appearing nearly 2500 times overall (termed post "impressions"). Post "engagement" was 177, meaning 177 people did something with the post (such as "clicked" on it).

Our actual TixPix Campaign started a few days before the movie was in theaters and ran until a week after the movie was out of theaters. We "boosted" this post for \$35, netting 9,260 post impressions, a post reach of 8,406, with a post engagement of 877. The post also generated 120 "likes" or "loves" and more than 100 comments. Here is a link to our Facebook post announcing the campaign: <https://tinyurl.com/22epcst9>.

The TixPix Campaign offered an opportunity to win a free annual membership in the American Branch (which includes membership in the Richard III Society, CLG in the UK). Entrants were to post a picture of their theater ticket to that Facebook post in order to enter the drawing. Current members could do the same in order to win a free one-year extension to their membership. All non-member entrants could also attend one of two "members only" Zoom talks – the first by Sally Keil ("Archaeological Discovery and Reinterment of the Remains of King Richard III of England") in the midst of the campaign, and the upcoming Zoom talk by Dr. Compton Reeves ("Labor & Leisure in Medieval Old Age") scheduled for June 25th. We had 77 entrants, split about evenly between members and non-members. The campaign ended on Friday, April 7th and on Monday, April 10th, we selected the winners of the TixPix campaign by a random drawing. We awarded two free new memberships (Melissa Klick and Marcia Houston) and extended one member (Janet O'Donnell) for an additional year. Here are the winning entries into the TixPix contest:



We followed up the TixPix Campaign with a free Zoom talk led by our Chair, Susan Troxell: “You’ve Seen The Lost King. Now What? Is There Really Such a Thing as the Richard III Society?” (Spoiler alert: Yes, there really is such a thing!) We announced this Zoom talk via our Facebook page and also “boosted” that post. We had approximately 70 people registered to attend via Zoom, but only 40 or so attended on the day of the talk. A lesson-learned is to send out a reminder email for those who registered. The talk lasted about 90 minutes, and is now posted to our new YouTube channel [www.youtube.com/@RichardIIISocietyAmericanBranch](http://www.youtube.com/@RichardIIISocietyAmericanBranch) (yes, there is no “h” on the end as apparently there is a limit to the number of characters for a YouTube channel name) as a publicly available video. We have Sally Keil’s Zoom talk as well as talks from the 2022 GMM posted on the YouTube channel as “unlisted” videos available only to American Branch members via a link visible in the members section of our website ([R3.org](http://R3.org)).



Susan Troxell and friends going to see The Lost King.

We think the results of the American Branch TixPix Campaign have been quite impressive. Since our first boosted Facebook post, membership has grown by 9.5%, an increase of 34 new members (of course, two of those are non-paying members for their first year). The cost of the advertising via Facebook was \$98.99.

Now that The Lost King is streaming (rent and purchase) in the United States, we are considering ways to continue the “buzz.” One potential idea we are considering is having a “watch party” when the movie is available to both rent and buy on the streaming market. We are also considering writing a series of blog posts on our website or Facebook posts on our page with subjects as: “Yes We’re Real: What does the Richard III Society Actually Do?” Overall, the TixPix Campaign has brought a significant amount of excitement to the American Branch.

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### The American Branch is now on Twitter

There is now another way you can interact with the American Branch. We just set up a profile on the Twitter social media site: [@R3\\_Society\\_USA](https://twitter.com/R3_Society_USA) The direct internet link to our profile is [twitter.com/R3\\_Society\\_USA](https://twitter.com/R3_Society_USA). We understand that not all our members are on Twitter, but we view it as one more way to get the word out about the American Branch and Good King Richard. If you do Twitter, we ask that you would give us a follow.



Our other social media outlets are Facebook ([facebook.com/r3dotorg](https://facebook.com/r3dotorg)) and YouTube (public channel: [youtube.com/@RichardIIISocietyAmericanBranch](http://youtube.com/@RichardIIISocietyAmericanBranch); members only videos from past Zoom talks: [r3.org/past-zoom-talks/](http://r3.org/past-zoom-talks/)).

## Off the Beaten Path Reviews

Since the Ricardian Register covers fiction and non-fiction book reviews, the newsletter's review will focus on other media. This includes art and graphic novels, puzzles, video and board games, pod casts, and of course, movies.



### *The Lost King*—a movie review

The start of the film showed Philippa Langley attending a Shakespearean performance having Richard III being the archetypal evil king that he personified with physical deformities. To her thinking, this personification could not be right. Although the movie severely compressed of her research timeline (it took more than four years), the movie essentially laid out the facts of the research and the obstacles Philippa encountered in finding his grave. I enjoyed the whimsical way Philippa envisioned Richard III prodding her to persist and how it all tied in at the end.

Whether you are a loyal Ricardian or a casual viewer curious as to how King Richard's remains were found, it's impossible to not empathize with Philippa and applaud her sheer determination to find the king's burial place. Her intuition along with a map and the information that was available about his original burial at Leicester's Grey Friars monastery led her to the north end of the social services car park. She was drawn to a parking spot curiously marked with stenciled "R" that she later learned meant reserved. Convinced her research and instinct put her in the right place for the remains, she investigated what it would take to do an archaeological dig in the car park. The odds were astronomical that this project would approach anything resembling fruition, mostly because it would be difficult to convince the authorities at the University of Leicester and the city to proceed. Neither showed much interest in the possibility of making history--and giving a king his deserved burial.

Thanks to the ground breaking genealogical research by John Ashdown-Hill where he found a living descendent through the maternal lines of one of Richard III's sisters, he was able to identify what Richard III's mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA) had to be. Once the bones were analyzed and mtDNA matched that of living descendants, there was no more doubt. Almost at the eleventh hour, the University of Leicester decided to provide some funding, and began to take all the credit for the entire undertaking, excluding Philippa from their self-congratulatory events and neglecting to mention her name. At this point in the film, the timeline cuts to the end of the story, when Philippa finally does receive some recognition including an audience with the Queen, (not shown but mentioned). The next scene is the funeral procession through the Leicester streets, bestowing all due pomp and ceremony upon the king, and to the church for his final burial.

Even though I already knew the story, I found *The Lost King* enthralling and well-acted. I do believe it would be entertaining and informative whatever your level of interest in Richard III and one determined Ricardian who made history.—Diana Rubino

### Archaeological Discovery of the Remains of King Richard III—a Zoom review

Presentation by Sally Keil. Available to members of the Richard III Society at [r3.org/past-zoom-talks/](https://r3.org/past-zoom-talks/) or from the main menu: FOR MEMBERS/VIDEOS (password required).

On March 26, 2023, Sally Keil presented background to Philippa Langley's search for Richard III's grave that culminated successfully in August 2012 and subsequently proving them to be of the King through DNA and isotopic analysis of the skeletal remains. This Zoom lecture is the perfect companion to *The Lost King* movie of Langley finding Richard's grave (see movie review).

This talk begins with why Richard had rightful claim to the crown via his ancestry and why Edward IV bigamous marriage to Elizabeth Woodville prevented his children (including the "princes in the tower"—Edward, prince of Wales and Richard Duke of York) from inheriting title. Richard III's first and only Parliament in 1484 issued Titulus Regius declaring Richard rightful king and declaring Edward IV's children bastards.

We come to the research Langley had to do before the dig could be proposed to the University and city of Leicester. There were several issues that had to be resolved to determine where Richard's remains could likely be found. Were they in the River Soar as one myth claimed, or were they buried in

the Grey Friars Monastery as Croyland Chronicler documented. In addition, Henry VII (Tudor) provided funds for Richard’s burial and “tomb stone.” In the 17<sup>th</sup> century, William Herrick claimed there was a monument to Richard III in his garden, which was part of the now destroyed Grey Friars Monastery. Yet it was almost lost to history through city mapping errors and mis-identification (Black Friars was confused with Grey Friars monastery).

The “Archaeological Discovery Zoom talk shows how Philippa Langley, teaming up with John Ash-down-Hill, whose genealogical research and knowledge of medieval monastery floor plans, made possible the finding and proving of Richard III’s Remains.

I also highly recommend *The King’s Grave: The Search for Richard III*,” by Philippa Langley and Michael Jones, published by John Murray publishers.—Joan Szechtman

## Astounding Songs by Legendary Ten Seconds—a music review

The Noble King track:

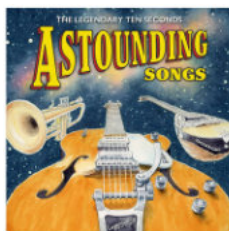
Ian tells the story of the aftermath of the Battle of Bosworth, when Richard was slain, stripped of his splendid royal armor, and thrown on the back of a horse. This time, a female singer accompanies him and adds another dimension with well-crafted harmony. A cello lends a melancholy, somewhat haunting background, violins give the work an orchestral richness, and drums provide the beat and give the music a satisfying completeness as it builds to a crescendo. At the end, Ian sings 'his remains were not thrown into the Soar' which every Ricardian now knows, but for almost 30 years I believed that rumor—once again Ian is historically accurate!

The Valiant Squires track:

All of Ian's songs tell a vivid story, and the music, usually in a minor key, sets the mood. The lyrics and music of The Valiant Squires blends together and complement each other so that when listening you cannot imagine a more perfect match. His voice as always is rich and he enunciates the words perfectly. You can close your eyes and picture this musical story as it happened (yes, the songs are historically accurate too).

Listen to them on YouTube here: [youtu.be/-RNzxf1Xr2g](https://youtu.be/-RNzxf1Xr2g)

There are two new Ricardian songs on their latest album, *Astounding Songs*. One of the songs is about the squires of the Duke of Gloucester and was inspired by an article which was written by Wendy Johnson for the December 2021 Ricardian Bulletin. Here are the links to the Ricardian songs (note: an account is required for access to these songs): [soundcloud.com/the-legendary-ten-seconds/the-valiant-squires](https://soundcloud.com/the-legendary-ten-seconds/the-valiant-squires)..—Diana Rubino



**Richard the Third Records Proudly Presents:**

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R30123

# ASTOUNDING SONGS

By THE LEGENDARY TEN SECONDS

APRIL  
2023

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*Ian Churchward - guitars, mellotron sounds and vocals      Lord Zarquon - keyboards, bass guitar and drums*  
*Phil Swann mandolin - bouzouki and guitar      Martyn Hillstead - percussion      Abley Dyer - trumpet,*  
*Bridger England, Vivald Sheer and Jules Jones - vocals*

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*All songs written by Ian Churchward*  
*except for The Despatch Rider written by Annie Rantley and Ian Churchward,*  
*and A Horseman Came Riding One Day written by Martyn Hillstead and Ian Churchward*  
*Recorded in South Devon throughout 2021 and 2022*  
*Mixed and mastered by Lord Zarquon      Album artwork created by Graham Moores*

## Report on Outcome of SGM

We all should have received an email from the Richard III Society, CLG in the UK announcing an upcoming membership price increase of 3 GBP per member. As you are probably aware, a substantial percentage of our membership dues (78% or \$47 out of \$60 individual dues) goes to the UK to pay for their printed publications and overseas mailing costs. The Board of the American Branch is committed to holding the line on price increases for as long as possible. It seems likely that membership costs and cost saving measures will be discussed at the UK Society's AGM this September 30th. We plan to dig into this issue in depth following the results of the UK Society's 2023 AGM. As members of the CLG, American Branch members can attend the UK AGM in person, online or by proxy vote. We encourage your attendance, and will pass along attendance details once they are published.

The contents of the email we received follow:

Dear Members,

We write to report on the outcome of the Society's Special General Meeting (SGM), which took place on Saturday 20th May. Our thanks to all members who participated in the meeting and to those who had voted by proxy. The formal result was that the motion to increase adult subscription amounts by £3 from October 2023 was approved by over 90% of those voting, thus formalising the indicative vote at the 2022 Leicester AGM. Our membership rates for the 2023/24 Ricardian year will therefore be:

- Adult rate £32 (family £38)
- Senior rate £25 (family £31)
- Junior £12/Student £22 (both unaltered)
- Schools etc £38

Contributors voiced strong praise for the quality of our publications and were clear that they wanted the Bulletin and the Ricardian to continue in this way, accepting that subscriptions would have to increase to do so. A full report on the SGM will be included in the September Bulletin.

The Board will, as previously promised, be including in the Annual Report to members a full discussion paper on how subscriptions should be taken forward. This will be for discussion at the 2023 AGM when members will be asked to decide on subscriptions for October 2024 onwards. Proxy voting will of course be available.

The Board of the Richard III Society

## Grant Award for Edward IV Roll Project

Susan Troxell

American Branch awards grant for Innovative Edward IV Roll project:

The Richard III Society-American Branch is excited to announce that it has provided \$3,000 in funding to scholars at the University of Pennsylvania for the first phase of a multi-phase project to transcribe, translate, and digitally map the text of Free Library of Philadelphia Lewis MS E201, a 19-foot propaganda genealogy of Edward IV lavishly illustrated with portraits, roundels, heraldic banners, and the iconography of the principal lines of Yorkist descent. Rolls such as E201 were a critical part of the Wars of the Roses as they were created to justify a hereditary claim to the English throne. Richard III surely would have been aware of them.



This project is a continuation of the work on this manuscript funded by the Branch in the late 1990s to conserve and prepare it for display at a 2001 exhibition, "Leaves of Gold: Treasures of Manuscript Illumination from Philadelphia Libraries."

Because E201 is unique among the many propaganda genealogies of the Wars of the Roses for its wealth of iconography and its unconventional presentation, it can provide insights on how the Yorkist faction wished to present the validity of its claim to the throne and its marshaling of documentary (and mythological) evidence to support it. It can also shed new light on the networks of support, real or imagined, for the Yorkist cause. The project will be of considerable scholarly importance and can spark additional research, while at the same time making the document accessible and intelligible to the layperson as it will offer an English translation of its abbreviated Medieval Latin calligraphy.

Using the Digital Mappa software, E201 will be divided into sections highlighting its major components and allowing users to access links to background information or to similar manuscripts. Excitingly, this will enable anyone to compare this roll to other medieval rolls, as well as to learn more about the people, the images, and the text in it.

The initial phase of the work will be supervised by Dr. Emily Steiner, Professor of English at the University of Pennsylvania who is a medieval specialist and trustee of the New Chaucer Society and Director of the International Piers Plowman Society. Three graduate students will transcribe and translate the manuscript. Dot Porter, Curator of Digital Research Services in the Schoenberg Institute for Manuscript Studies, will do the digital mapping. She will be assisted by members of the American Branch, including its former board member Laura Blanchard.

To learn more about Digital Mappa, go to this link: [schoenberginstitute.org/dm-tools-for-digital-annotation-and-linking/](http://schoenberginstitute.org/dm-tools-for-digital-annotation-and-linking/)

### Look for article on Juana of Castile in September Register

Maria Torres let me know that she has been researching Juana of Castile and plans to share her research with us in time for the September Ricardian Register. Of course, I jumped at the chance. Here is the "why" for her research.

Richard III is not the only fifteenth century example of a criminally-distorted, centuries-old historical after-life. In the Spanish-speaking world, there is another figure whose reputation is proving to be at odds with the truth:

Juana of Castile, daughter of Isabel and Fernando, first and last queen regnant of a united Spain, has been known as Juana la Loca for centuries. She has provided material for wildly romantic and/or lurid tales for almost as long as Richard. Recently, challenges to this popular and often-cherished image have been raised. I am exploring this recent research and its ramifications, and plan to share my discoveries soon.



## Chapter News

The New York Metro Area Chapter has been dormant since so much shut down during the COVID-19 lockdown, but Maria Torres, chapter chair let me know that she is planning a Zoom get-together on June 17<sup>th</sup> and is hoping for a strong turnout. If anyone reading this, lives in the New York Metro area and are interested in this chapter, please email Maria at [ejbronte@gmail.com](mailto:ejbronte@gmail.com).

Liz Bateman, Tidewater Chapter, is pleased to share her winning bid for a watercolor Compton Reeves donated to the GMM silent auction. The watercolor painted in 1990 by "Dexter" shows Richard III's war pennant on the ruined battlements of a castle.

Tom Trimble, The Trimble Collection [trimble-collection.com](http://trimble-collection.com), has over 40 years of restoration and conservation created the frame and matting for this watercolor. His work is on display in museums around the world.



**AD**

Visiting London this summer? How would you like to walk  
In the Footsteps of King Richard III

Lesley McAlpine, London Grasshopper Tours, has scheduled a tour  
for Monday, June 26, 2023 from 10:30—13:00 BST

Contact Lesley at [lesleymcalpine15@gmail.com](mailto:lesleymcalpine15@gmail.com) for details on how to  
register for this tour or for a private tour on other dates throughout  
the summer.

Sites include: Paul's Cross—outside St Paul's Cathedral; the King's  
Wardrobe; site of Baynard Castle; Guildhall Yard; All Hallows by  
The Tower; view of The Tower of London.

Going in a group? Contact Lesley McAlpine for tour discounts.

To sign up for tours and more information go to  
[londongrasshoppertours.com](http://londongrasshoppertours.com)

Lesley McAlpine is a qualified City of London Guide and  
Westminster Walking Guide

## Ad Policy and Submission Guidelines

The American Branch of the Ricard III Society will accept ads that are of Ricardian interest including events, tours, music, books, art, and other merchandise.

### Ad fees:

There are no fees for ads by members of any branch of the Richard III Society.

Ad fees of \$50 USD apply to ads by a member in behalf of a company they are affiliated with, or by non-members for ads that are still within the parameters of Ricardian interest.

All other types of ads are not accepted and the American Branch reserves the right to reject any ad.

### Discounts:

Ad discounts will be offered in return for a benefit to the Society or its members—for example to recognize a discount on a product or service being offered to members.

Some advertisements may be carried free—for example if this is an event being run by the Society or if it is to support a charity or other good cause; or as part of a mutual arrangement with an equivalent body;

### *Ricardian Chronicle* schedule:

Submit ad by May 1<sup>st</sup> for inclusion in the June issue.

Submit ad by November 1<sup>st</sup> for inclusion in the December issue.

(Note: To allow for publishing and distribution delays, the ad should not be for events and tours that are to happen on a day in the first half of publication month.)

### Technical Guidelines:

Fonts: The publication will use only one standard font throughout. If you need to have a special font, convert it to an image.

File types: doc, docx, odt, rtf.

Images: must be at least at 300 dpi (dots per inch) resolution.

Ad size: should not exceed 5" by 5" and have a resolution of 300 dpi.

If the ad submission is fully formatted, submit it as an image.

Once the advertisement is published, the advertiser and their customers are acting at their own risk.

If you have any questions, please contact me at [info@r3.org](mailto:info@r3.org).

## Article Submission Guidelines

Keep it simple. Please use a standard 12-point font—such as the default font of the word processor.

Use italics for book titles, article titles, publication titles, and foreign language.

If the document has images, please submit them separately, marking their place in the document like this: <file name such as Fig1>

Do not resize your images. I can always make them smaller to fit, but not larger. Images 300 dots per inch size, so if the image is 1" by 2" in the article, then it is 300 dots (or pixels) by 600 dots for the correct size.

Image file format should be jpg, png, or tif. Most cameras will produce jpg images.

Preferred document file formats are doc, docx, odt, or rtf. I can accept PDF files, but they do not always transcribe well. Tables or databases should use Microsoft Excel or CSV. DO NOT convert them to PDF.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at [info@r3.org](mailto:info@r3.org) if you have any questions on something that you want to submit.

## Board, Staff, and Chapter Contacts

### EXECUTIVE BOARD

Chair: Susan Troxell  
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immediate Past Chair: Compton Reeves  
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Membership Chair: Wayne Ingalls  
[membership@r3.org](mailto:membership@r3.org)

Treasurer: Deborah Kaback  
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Secretary: Sally Keil  
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Directors-at-Large: Carole Bell, Mary Miller,  
Joan Szechtman  
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